

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

Wildlife Resource Concern

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Wildlife Resource Concern		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:		Telephone:
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is at least one of the following practices planned to be applied within the longleaf associated T & E species zone? Offered acres must contain at least one suitable soil or soil associations for gopher tortoises within pine ecosystems AND located within gopher tortoise county (see map and approved soils list in FY15 MS EQIP Manual) -314: QVM in Grassland/Early Successional Fields; 315: Kudzu Control; 315: Cogongrass Control; 315: Convert Fescue, Bermudagrass and/or Other Introduced Grasses to Native Vegetation; 327: Establish/Enhance Wildlife/Pollinator Habitat by Early Successional Vegetation Establishment (plant legumes, forbs, native grasses, and/or shrubs); 338: Prescribed Burning; 386: Establish/Enhance Wildlife/Pollinator Habitat Buffers; 394: Firebreaks; 612: Planting Trees/Shrubs; 647: Light Strip Disking/Woodland Light Strip Disking; 666: QVM in Pine Stands; 666: Heavy Chemical Ground Control of Competitive Woody Understory Species.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Is at least one of the following practices planned to be applied within any of the quail focal counties? Offered acres must be located within a county identified as having significant habitat areas for Northern Bobwhite Quail (see map in FY15 MS EQIP Manual), AND plantings must be native vegetation and/or approved legumes only -314: QVM in Grassland; 315: Kudzu Control; 315: Cogongrass Control; 315: Convert Fescue, Bermudagrass and/or Other Introduced Grasses to Native Vegetation; 327: Establish/Enhance Wildlife/Pollinator Habitat; 338: Prescribed Burning; 386: Establish/Enhance Wildlife/Pollinator Habitat Buffers; 394: Firebreaks; 422: Establish/Enhance Wildlife Transition Zones/Corridors; 612: Planting Trees/Shrubs; 647: Light Strip Disking/Woodland Strip Disking; 666: QVM in Pine Stands; 666: Heavy Chemical Ground Control of Competitive Woody Understory Species.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will a water control structure be used to create shallow water habitat for waterfowl or to manage flood timing and depth for optimum feeding? Offered acres must provide winter water for waterfowl by creating and managing moist soil wetlands and/or flooded croplands -356: Dike; 587: Structure for Water Control; 644: Wetland Wildlife Habitat.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will early successional vegetation be promoted by practices 338/394: Prescribed Burning/Firebreak OR light strip disking in an open field, or by periodically disking within open pine timber stands or a shallow water impoundment to create/enhance wildlife habitat? (Implement Practices 338/394: Prescribed Burning/Firebreak OR Practice 647: Light Strip Disking/Woodland Light Strip Disking)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Has applicant had a previous contract in the past 3 years and failed to complete contract items on schedule?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Has applicant NEVER been required to pay recovery costs? If applicant has NEVER paid recovery costs, answer YES.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Has applicant previously been found in non-compliant status? (Ex. Terminated contract with liquidated damages or active contract with no practice completed)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Is at least one of the following practices planned to be applied within the Black Bear SAFE Habitat Initiative focal area (see map in FY15 MS EQIP Manual), AND plantings must be native vegetation only -391: Riparian Forest Buffer; 422: Wildlife Transition Zones/Corridors; 612: Tree/Shrub Establishment.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will practices create wildlife/pollinator habitat buffers and/or wildlife transition zones/corridors within or	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

around open fields > 10 acres in size? 327: Establish/Enhance Wildlife/Pollinator Habitat by Early Successional Vegetation Establishment (plant legumes, forbs, native grasses, and/or shrubs); 386: Establish/Enhance Wildlife/Pollinator Habitat Buffers; 422: Establish/Enhance Wildlife Transition Zones/Corridors.	
10. Will only native forbs/grasses/shrubs and/or approved legumes be planted to promote Practice 647: Early Successional Vegetation Establishment? 327: Establish/Enhance Wildlife/Pollinator Habitat by Early Successional Vegetation Establishment (plant legumes, forbs, native grasses, and/or shrubs); 386: Establish/Enhance Wildlife/Pollinator Habitat Buffers; 422: Establish/Enhance Wildlife Transition Zones/Corridors.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Is this the first time applicant has applied for EQIP assistance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

NRCS Representative:	Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: